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THE ACCEPTANCE OF TWO-YEAR CANDIDATES AS MEMBERS OF THE CZECH COMMUNIST PARTY

Candidates whose one-year waiting period has expired have been transferred to the status of members in accordance with the regulations concerning individual verification of candidates on completion of their waiting period beginning April 1949.

The deadline for candidates with a 2-year waiting period is now at hand. Experiences with the transfer of one-year candidates indicated that the entire procedure was often excessively prolonged; this must not be repeated. The secretariat of the Central Committee has issued new regulations for the transfer of candidates to the status of members, adapted to the organizational statutes; these regulations were accepted by the Ninth Party Congress.

After the expiration of his waiting period, a candidate must request of the organization that he be accepted as a n mber; his request must be made on the established form, on which he will write his own biography, and on which his guarantors will justify their recommendation that he be accepted.

The organization must devote constant attention to candidates to see that they become good members of the Party. The regulations for the acceptance of candidates as members must be discussed in the basic organizations.

> INDIVIDUAL VERIFICATION OF CANDIDATES UPON THEIR ACCEPTANCE AS MEMBERS OF THE PARTY

Regulations of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of 18 April 1950

The waiting period is now ending for candidates who were transferred to the status of candidates for 2 years at the time of the checkup in 1948, and for those who original one-year waiting period was extended for one year.

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The organizational statutes adopted by the Ninth Congress dictate regarding the acceptance of capidates as members as follows:

A member of the Party is accepted from the ranks of candidates after the expiration of his waiting period, if he shows that he is worthy of being a member.

A candidate who wished to become a member shall request acceptance from the committee of his basic organization. He shall give the committee his membership application with an attached biography, signed by two members of the Party as guarantors.

The guarantors, who must have been Party members for at least 2 years, assume responsibility for the fact that the cand date recommended by them, whom they have known well for at least one year, is worthy of being a member of the Party.

The committee of the basic organization must discuss the acceptance of each candidate separately.

The chairman of the organization shall submit to the membership meeting the committee's proposal for the acceptance or rejection of a candidate who has applied for membership. The membership meeting will discuss each candidate and vote on his acceptance. After the decision of the membership meeting, the committee of the basic organization shall forward each application (even if rejected) to the okres committee, with the reasons for its decision.

The okres committee confirms the acceptance of a candidate as a member. The presidium shall discuss each application separately; it may raise objections to the acceptance or rejection, and return the application to the membership meeting for further discussion.

The kraj committee shall examine every membership application, determine whether all requirements have been fulfilled, and shall forward it to the Central Committee. The acceptance of members who have held positions in other political parties must be confirmed by the kraj committee. The acceptance of former high officials of other political parties is decided by the Central Committee.

Membership in the Party is reckoned from the day on which the candidate was accepted as a member at the membership meeting.

The political maturity, devotion to the Party, and personal characteristics of each candidate must be carefully examined; in the case of candidates of factory organizations, it must be determined whether he manifests himself as a Communist even in his place of residence.

It must be determined how he has acquainted himself with the principles, policy, and organization statutes of the Party; how he has performed the duties assigned to him by the organizational statutes; whether he is working in the organization and attending the membership meetings; whether he is participating in the Year of Party Education and how he grasps the course materials; whether he pays his dues regularly; whether he regularly reads the Party press and persuades those around him of the correctness of Party policy; how he has performed the tasks assigned to him by the organization, or how he has worked in official positions entrusted to him (such as assistant to a cell leader, member of the commission of the national committee); and how he has worked in non-Party organizations.

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It is especially important to determine how a candidate has fulfilled his constructive tasks, how he is distinguishing himself in his work, and how he is participating in Socialist competition and the shock-worker movement. In the case of a candidate from the ranks of farmers, it is especially necessary to judge his attitude toward the Unified Agricultural Cooperatives, and whether he fulfills his obligations to the state in an exemplary manner. Candidates from the ranks of small businessmen and office workers must be checked especially thoroughly.

Each candidate must be discussed at the committee meeting and the member-ship meeting. The committee must prepare its proposal carefully. The chairman of the organization submits a report both at the committee meeting and at the membership meeting. Therefore, he must know the candidate personally, and must carefully examine his application, biography, and all other documents.

The candidate shall submit a carefully filled out application for membership signed by two guarantors, with a detailed biography. The application will be made on the new form, which the organization will obtain from the okres secretariat.

The committee of a factory organization shall request an opinion about each candidate from the local organization in which he is registered. If the candidate's waiting period was assigned in an organization other than the one deciding whether to accept him as a member, it is also necessary to request an opinion and explanation from his former organization.

In addition to the candidate, his guarantors, his cell leader, the leading party member of any non-Party organization in which the candidate may work, and the instructor of the organization will be summoned to the committee meeting discussing the candidate's application. The opinions of the local or former organization will also be discussed at this meeting.

The chairman of the organization shall submit a report on the candidate, particularly on how he has fulfilled his obligations. This report shall be thoroughly prepared in advanced. The members of the committee, the cell leader, and the instructor of the organization have the right to ask the candidate questions so that they may be able to judge his political maturi v, his attitude toward the Party, and whether he has fulfilled his construct ve tasks and the tasks assigned to him by the organization.

The guarantors shall indicate how long they have known the proposed candidate, and shall give their reasons for recommending his acceptance as a member. The instructor will make sure that the committee's proposal for the membership meeting gives a correct evaluation of the candidate's work and maturity.

At the membership meeting, after some preliminary remarks emphasizing the importance of deciding on admirsion of candidates, the chairman of the organization shall present all data concerning the candidate; a brief biography, why he applied for membership in the Party, how he has fulfilled his obligations during the waiting period, any opinion from the candidate's local or former organization, and the proposal prepared by the committee.

The candidate must self-critically judge how he has fulfilled his obligations during the waiting period. After his self-criticism, all those present have the right to ask questions, evaluate t. candidate critically, and make comments on the committee's proposal. The candidate must answer the questions himself.

After the debate on the committee's proposal, the chairman shall call for a vote on the proposal, augmented by the comments made during the debate. If the organization finds that the candidate has not fulfilled his obligations

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and has not displayed sufficient interest, he will be crossed off the list of candidates or, in serious cases, expelled.

The waiting period may be extended for a year in the case of those candidates who have a good attitude toward the Party but who do not yet completely understand Party policy, those who, for serious resons, have not fulfilled some of their assigned tasks, and those whose political level is not yet up to the demands placed on Party members. The waiting periods shall be extended only for those candidates who give promise of fulfilling all conditions for membership within the additional time allowed.

A candidate may appeal the decision of the membership meeting to a higher echelon of the Party.

If the membership meeting decides that a candidate thall be expelled or that his name be crossed off the list, the clerk of the organization shall report this to the okres committee on the form "Report of Changes," to which he shall attach an abstract of the minutes of the meeting as well as the candidate's credentials. He shall also report to the okres committee if a candidate's waiting perict has been extended.

If the membership meeting decides to accept a candidate as a member, the clerk of the organization shall fill out the candidate's application with the opinion of the organization resulting from the committee meeting and the membership meeting. The chairman of the organization shall sign it, confirm it by stamp, and send it to the okres committee.

The presidium of the okres committee is required to discuss all applications of candidates which it receives and to decide whether to approve them. The cadre secretary submits the proposals. For processing the proposals, he may bring in from the factories proven Party officials who have been approved by the presidium of the okres committee; these officials examine the applications in detail. The secretariat of the okres committee then forwards the approved applications to the kraj committee.

The kraj committee, which examines the membership applications of candidates, must know exactly the status of the candidates and the number accepted according to organizations and okreses. The chief of the cadre section submits a list of candidates who are to be accepted as members to the presidium of the kraj committee with a comment. Proven Party officials, approved by the presidium of the kraj committee, may be brought in to examine the applications.

After an application is examined, the kraj committee shall send it to the records branch of the central secretariat. Here the insert for the credentials confirming the acceptance of the candidate as a member will be prepared when the special commission designated by the secretariat of the Central Committee examines the application.

The Central Committee shall send the prepared insert for the member-ship credentials to the chairman of the basic organization, via the kraj and okres committees; the chairman shall give it to the member at the membership meeting.

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